

Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Serial No. 09/725,147
Attorney Docket No. 001574

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and new claim 5 has been added. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated February 23, 2006.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner maintains the following rejection:

claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagasaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,153,730, of record) in view of Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,137,534, of record).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, now calls for *a main image coder for coding a single frame of main image data every time a single picture-taking operation is carried out so as to create a single frame of coded main image data which is reduced in a data amount prior to the taking of the next successive picture; ... wherein said main image coder adopts a JPEG format as a coding format.*

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It is respectfully submitted that the A/D converter 16 shown in Figure 1 of Nagasaki et al. is for converting an analogue image signal which is output from the CCD 12 and amplified by the amplifier 15 to digital image data, and therefore, the A/D converter 16 is extremely different from the main image coder of the present invention which *adopts a JPEG format as a coding format*. In other words, clearly the A/D converter 16 shown in Figure 1 of Nagasaki et al. does not adopt a JPEG format as a coding format, as now called for in claim 1.

New independent claim 5 calls for *wherein both of the main image data to be coded by said main image coder and the size-reduced image data to be coded by said size-reduced image coder are digital image data*. In contrast, the A/D converter 16 shown in Figure 1 of Nagasaki et al. is for converting an analogue image signal. As such, it is submitted that Nagasaki et al. fail to disclose or fairly suggest these features of claim 5.

Moreover, it is submitted that the secondary reference of Anderson fails to teach the above-noted drawbacks and deficiencies of Nagasaki et al..

Therefore, in view of the above amendments and aforementioned remarks, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

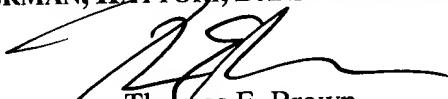
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If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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